



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Big 12 Conference keeps Men's Basketball Championship in Kansas City**

KANSAS CITY, MO (May 28, 2015) – The Kansas City Sports Commission is pleased to announce that the Big 12 Conference has chosen Kansas City as the host site for the Phillips 66 Big 12 Men's Basketball Championship for 2017-2020.

"We are thrilled that the Big 12 Conference has decided to keep the Men's Basketball Championship in Kansas City," said Kathy Nelson, President & CEO. "We have a wonderful local host committee made up of volunteers who have given their time over the years to make the Championship successful."

Kansas City was not selected as a host city for the Big 12 Women's Basketball Championship but was awarded the Big 12 Wrestling Championship for 2016, which will be held at Sprint Center. Kansas City has never hosted the Big 12 Wrestling Championship.

Since the start of the Championships in 1997, Kansas City has hosted the Men's Basketball Championship 14 times and the Women's Basketball Championship 11 times. Dallas has hosted Men's three times and Women's five times while Oklahoma City has hosted Men's two times and Women's three times.

For three months, the Kansas City Sports Commission, Sprint Center and Visit KC worked tirelessly to assemble bid materials to host the Big 12 Men's and Women's Basketball Championships. The Big 12 Conference met in Dallas to vote on the host cities for 2017-2020.

### **About The Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation**

The Kansas City Sports Commission & Foundation benefits the Kansas City region through sports by creating, attracting and managing major sporting events for Kansas City. And, promote the lifetime benefits of sports for youth through educational initiatives, tournaments and clinics.

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